

# Superior

## Community Profile

### Prepared by the ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Superior is on U.S. 60 at the junction of state Highway 177. The town, in a mountainous setting, is surrounded by peaks such as 6,056-foot Iron Mountain. In 1900, George Lobb laid out the town, naming it Hastings. Mines dotted the hills around the prosperous Pinal County community. Stockholders in one of the successful silver mines lived in Michigan and named their mine Lake Superior. This mine fed the area economy and the community changed its name to Superior after this mine. The Magma Copper Company was established in 1910 and ran the Silver Queen Mine which became a great copper producer after its silver ran out. A smelter was built in 1924 and remained in operation for 47 years.

2-6-07: A contract was approved by the Town of Superior to begin the build-out of a Wireless Network for connection to the Internet over the community of Superior.

### Basic Information

Founded: 1882  
 Incorporated: 1976  
 Elevation: 2,820  
 Located in Pinal County  
 Nearby Highways: HWYS US 60; SR 177  
 Enterprise Zone available

Distance to Major Cities:  
 Phoenix: 63 miles  
 Tucson: 102 miles

### Population

	1990	2000	2008
Superior	3,468	3,254	3,375
Pinal County	116,397	179,727	350,558
Arizona	3,665,228	5,130,632	6,629,455

Sources: Arizona Department of Commerce and US Census Bureau

### Principal Economic Activities

Major employment sectors in the Superior area include mining, and trade and service. The community is improving its trade and service sector in order to expand the income from tourism. Agriculture is significant to the Pinal County economy. Ranching is conducted in the surrounding areas.

### County Employment

	2008
Government	19,225
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	9,150
Leisure and Hospitality	4,550
Educational and Health Services	4,275
Mining and Construction	3,925
Manufacturing	3,825
Professional and Business Services	3,450
Other Services	1,625
Financial Activities	1,500
Information	350

Source: Arizona Department of Commerce

Figures are organized under the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).



### Labor Force Data

	1990	2000	2008
Civilian Labor Force	1,102	1,205	2,056
Unemployed	83	120	295
Unemployment Rate	7.5%	10.0%	14.3%

Source: Arizona Department of Commerce

### Growth Indicators

	1990	2000	2008
New Bldg. Permits	6	12	0
Taxable Sales (\$)	5.6 million	11.3 million	9.9 million
Net Assessed Value (\$)	3.4 million	4.2 million	12.7 million

Sources: Arizona State Univ., AZ Dept. of Revenue, AZ Tax Research Assoc. 2000 and 2008 New building permit data incomplete: One or more months not available

### Scenic Attractions

Along the famous 98-mile Apache Trail on state Highway 88, imposing saguaros, rugged mountains, desert vistas, and four lakes created by dams on the Salt River give the traveler a glimpse of Arizona's beauty and diversity. East of town are Queen Creek Bridge and Tunnel. On the eastern side of Queen Creek Canyon are the red-streaked towering cliffs of Apache Leap Mountain where Apaches are said to have jumped rather than surrender to U.S. troops. Nearby attractions include Magma Copper Company Mine, the state's largest underground mine; Oak Flats campground; and Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum, with more than 10,000 desert plants. Superior has identified three historic districts and the Superior Historical Society opened the home of Bob Jones (Arizona's sixth governor) as a museum.

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### Community Facilities

The Town of Superior has a broad range of community facilities including a senior center, a community center, a library, one swimming pool, a Little League field, two parks with football, softball and baseball fields, and the First Municipal Peace Site in Arizona.

<b>Educational Institutions</b>	<b>Public</b>	<b>Private</b>
Elementary	Y	N
Middle School	Y	N
High School	Y	N

### Financial

Number of banks: 1

### Government

Fire Department: Volunteer

Law Enforcement: City Police Department

### Airports

Local municipal airport has one 3,000-ft. runway.

### Medical

Copper Canyon Health care and Cobre Valley Health Care Clinic

### Hotel & Lodging

Number of Rooms: 24

Meeting Rooms: 5

Capacity of Largest Facility: 850

### Industrial Properties:

A 46-acre fully improved industrial park is offering parcels ranging from two to nine acres.

### Utilities

Electricity	APS (Statewide)	800.253-9405
Natural Gas	Southwest Gas Corp. (statewide)	800.766.9722
Sewer	Municipal (Superior)	520.689.5752
Telephone	Qwest (statewide)	800.244.1111
Telephone	Superior Chamber of Commerce	520.689.0200
Water	Arizona Water Company (Superior)	520.689.2312

Cable Providers: Y

Digital Switching Station: Y

Internet Service Provider: Y

Cable Internet Service Provider: Y

Fiber Optics: Y

### Taxes

<b>Property Tax Rate</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2008</b>
Elementary/High Schools	8.78	7.64	6.59
City/Fire District	0.00	4.12	5.35
Countywide	7.46	7.63	5.36
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16.24</b>	<b>19.39</b>	<b>17.30</b>

Source: Arizona Tax Research Association

Note: Tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation

NOTE: School district participates in the Cobre Valley Institute of Technology (CVIT).

### Sales Tax

	<b>2008</b>
City/Town	2.00%
County	1.00%
State	5.60%

Sources: League of Arizona Cities & Towns, Arizona Dept. of Revenue

### Weather

	<b>Avg. Low (°F)</b>	<b>Avg. High (°F)</b>	<b>Precip. (in.)</b>
January	58.7	79.2	1.5
February	43.2	60.9	2.0
March	45.4	64.1	2.0
April	48.2	68.5	2.0
May	54.4	76.4	0.8
June	62.7	86.1	0.3
July	72.0	95.6	0.3
August	75.7	97.7	1.9
September	74.2	95.4	2.8
October	71.2	92.3	1.5
November	62.0	82.5	1.2
December	62.0	82.5	1.2
January	51.1	69.8	1.4
December	44.0	61.6	2.1

Source: Western Regional Climate Center

Western Regional Climate Center, wrcc@dri.edu. Period of record 1920-2005.

Average Total Snowfall 1.4".

This profile was prepared by the Arizona Department of Commerce Communications Division in cooperation with local sources.

For further information contact:

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